

The Elba Clipper

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THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1991

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NUMBER 36

ANNUAL STATUS REPORT RELEASED BY STATE

Elba City Schools gets good marks

by Ferrin Cox
Publisher

The Elba City Schools got good marks in the annual status report recently released by the Alabama Department of Education. Superintendent Charles Pearce was obviously pleased with the results as he went over the report with The Elba Clipper on Tuesday afternoon. He commended the teachers and the students for their efforts in spite of the adverse conditions the system has been operating under since last March.

The report divides the state into eight homogeneous groups, or clusters, based on socioeconomic conditions of the community and the size of the system as determined by enrollment.

The report provides for reporting of certain information items by system, by cluster, and by state for comparison purposes.

The Elba numbers are not entirely accurate, considering the March 1990 flood time is right in the middle of the reporting period.

However, even with the flood,

Elba held a 94.8% daily attendance, only a .1% lower than the state average.

Elba spent \$4.4 % of the available funds on classroom instruction, compared with only a 50% state average. However Elba exceeded the average in general administration and child nutrition by a fraction of a percent.

Elba continues to fall short in local revenue percentages, chalking up only a 9.7% compared with a state average of 19.3%. This figure has been a bit confusing in the past, because certain funds coming from the City are not counted because they don't actually go to the school first, before paying school bonds, etc.

Test scores for Elba are enlightening also. The Stanford Achievement test were not taken in Elba, due to the flood destroying all testing materials and the time for giving the test ran out during the flood turmoil. However Elba did well on the ACT and the High School Graduation Examination.

The ACT average in Elba was 18.6, while the state average was 19.9. However the Elba students ex-

ceeded the state average on the core curriculum (English, Math, Science and Social Studies). In this area they scored an average of 22 while the state average was 21.6.

Elba dropped down on the ACT test in the area of courses which include foreign languages, etc.

On the graduation exam, Elba students have pulled their average up in the math area, a continuing problem in past years. This year 97.5 of the students passed this portion on the first try. The state average was only 95.5%. Historically Elba has fallen below the state average in this area.

Elba dropped below the state average in reading, but again exceeded in the language area.

The overall average put Elba 2.4% above the average. Pearce was optimistic the shortfalls in the Elba test results could be addressed and the students given the necessary additional help to overcome the problems. He pointed out the 64.8% of the Elba teachers who have advanced teaching degrees as a valuable resource to implement the necessary problem solving.



DOWN WITH THE OLD UP WITH THE NEW... Take one last look at Elba's old city hall building because it on its way down. The building which was deemed unsafe due to flood damage is being torn down to make room for a new structure. The building which was erected in 1948 housed city offices until approximately 10 years ago.

Creel murder trial underway

by Marvin McIlwain
Editor

A Coffee County jury began hearing testimony in the Joseph D. Creel murder trial on Monday afternoon.

Creel, 26, of Elba is charged with two counts of murder and one count of first-degree assault.

The charges resulted from the investigation of a two-vehicle wreck which occurred July 8, 1990, at approximately 5:05 a.m., on Alabama Highway 189 approximately four miles south of Elba.

There were two persons, Scotty Wayne Norris, 19, and Dorothy A. Skinner, 56, both of Elba, killed in the two-car crash.

Norris was a passenger in the automobile driven by Creel and Skinner was a passenger in the other automobile involved in the crash driven by Mrs. Myrce Guy, 69, of Elba.

Mrs. Guy sustained serious injuries in the wreck and is still being treated by doctors at this time.

Also injured in the wreck was Ronnie Crawley, 22, of Elba. He

was a passenger in the Creel automobile.

The murder charges are a result of the Norris and Skinner deaths. The injury to Mrs. Guy resulted in the first-degree assault charge.

Assistant District Attorney Al Smith stated in his opening argument Monday that excessive speed and the consumption of alcoholic beverages contributed directly to the cause of the crash which resulted in the death of two persons and seriously injuring another.

The attorney for the defense, Merrill Shirley, said that he expected to show the blood alcohol of Creel to be less than half the legal limit of intoxication at the time of the wreck. Also, he stated that a bad curve in the road near the scene of the impact was a factor in causing the wreck.

At press time Tuesday, the state was expected to rest its case Wednesday morning and the defense would begin calling their witnesses. It appeared possible that the case would be given to the jury late Wednesday evening.

Van damaged by explosion in Jack

by Marvin McIlwain
Editor

An explosion which damaged a vehicle in the Jack Community is under investigation by the Coffee County Sheriff's Department and ATF (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms is a division of the federal government) investigators.

At approximately 1:45 a.m. on Wednesday, March 27, 1991, Mr. Herbert Bundy, who resides on Co. Rd. 43 in the Jack Community in North Coffee County, was awoken by a "loud noise."

According to Sheriff Brice Paul, Mr. Bundy did not see anything out of the ordinary when he investigated, so he went back to bed.

Shortly after 7:00 a.m., Mr. Bundy realized that a 1986 Ford Econoline Van which was parked in his yard had been damaged by an explosion and he notified the authorities.

After arriving on the scene and making a preliminary investigation, the sheriff's department requested technical assistance from Ft. Rucker's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Detachment.

The bomb team, after investigating the explosion scene and the vehicle involved, determined that it was not a "mechanical vehicle explosion."

Sheriff Paul stated that ATF officials were called in to investigate the scene and they reportedly sent pieces from the van to a laboratory in Atlanta for analysis.

Authorities reportedly have several leads in the case, but they are seeking additional information which will lead to the arrest and conviction of those responsible.

Elba Rescue Squad Day

Elba Rescue Squad Day is being planned for Saturday, April 6, 1991. The activities of the day will take place on the historic courthouse square in downtown Elba beginning at 8:00 a.m. with no set time for concluding.

Members of the rescue squad stated that there will be something for everyone!

Some of the events planned include the following: horse rides, gospel sing, drink wagon, bar-b-que sandwiches, arts and crafts, pony and cart rides, WZZT live remote, and a rummage sale.

Children games will include: Day in History, Jacob's Ladder, Moon Walk, Dart Games, Machine Guns, and Mini Donuts.

There will also be many other ac-

Boutwell killed in auto mishap

by Marvin McIlwain
Editor

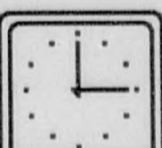
On Friday morning, March 29, 1991, a one car automobile accident claimed the life of Derrick Laron Boutwell, age 28, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Boutwell formerly of Elba. The victim's grandfather, Leavy Boutwell resides in Elba.

According to reports, the accident occurred approximately one mile from Boutwell's home in Lowndes County, Alabama. He resided in Burkeville.

Authorities have not determined the cause of the accident, but reportedly, bad driving conditions existed due to inclement weather in the area at about the time Boutwell would have been driving home from work.

A passing motorist noticed what appeared to be signs of an accident and notified nearby residents. Upon further investigation, Boutwell's car and body was discovered and the authorities were notified.

See the obituary section in this paper for further information concerning the deceased.



*Spring Forward
With Daylight
Savings Time
Don't Forget To Set Your
Clocks 1 Hour Forward.
Daylight Savings Time Starts
Sunday AM, April 7th*

New Brockton Council discusses bids

by Marvin McIlwain
Editor

New Brockton's councilmen spent most of the time in Monday evening's council meeting looking over a bid to enclose a storage shed adjacent to city hall.

A bid from Mr. Jerome Blackmon, a local contractor, in the amount of \$4,926.20 was opened and examined by the council. Councilman Laymon Tindol noted that

the bid did not include insulation in the structure. He stated that he felt that the building would have to be insulated when constructed or at least before cold weather.

Mayor Jim Driskell stated that this bid was approximately \$3,000 lower than previous bids submitted on the same proposed construction.

In Mr. Blackmon's bid, a request was made that the city advance him \$1,500 to purchase material (steel) to be used on the storage facility. The building which will have two twelve foot wide doors and a 3 foot wide entrance door on the front wall will be used to house the rescue ambulance and other city equipment.

Mayor Driskell was instructed by the council to discuss the bid with Mr. Blackmon and report back to the council before taking any further action on the matter.

A bid on janitorial service for city hall was approved on a temporary basis to "see how it works out." Mr. Jimmy Anderson with Power Clean of Coffee Springs submitted the bid at a cost of \$35 for bi-weekly janitorial services. The city clerk, Linda Dillo, was instructed to work out the details with Mr. Anderson.

Action taken in other matters was as follows:

***Approved payment of bills totaling \$4,948.45. A large portion of the bills were payments in the amounts of \$2,794.71 and \$409.43 to Coffee County's Highway Department for

Two car collision sends two youths to hospital

by Marvin McIlwain
Editor

On Wednesday, March 29, a two car collision sent two individuals to the local hospital.

According to Police Sgt. Dale Cobb of the Elba Police Department, the accident occurred at approxi-

mately 6:20 p.m. at the intersection of Smith Avenue (AL Hwy. 125) and Herman Driggers Drive.

Units of the Elba Rescue Squad and the Elba Fire Department were dispatched to the scene of the accident.

Injured in the accident were 18 year old Derrick Young of Brantley, Alabama and 16 year old Misty Dawn Miller a resident of 418 Moore Avenue of Elba.

Sgt. Cobb stated that Young was trapped in his vehicle and had to be freed by rescue personnel using the Jaws-of-Life.

Young and Miller were both transported by units of the Elba Rescue Squad to Elba General Hospital for emergency treatment. They were later transferred to Flowers Hospital in Dothan for further treatment of their injuries.

At the time of transfer, Young's condition was listed as critical with what was believed to be serious internal injuries.

Miller's condition was listed as stable with lacerations to the head and legs.

Miller has since been released from the hospital and Young is still in a Dothan hospital with his condition listed as guarded.

Sgt. Leslie Huxsey of the Coffee County Sheriff's Department was the first officer on the scene and assisted local police with the investigation.

EPD to present drug awareness program soon

by Marvin McIlwain
Editor

The Elba Police Department is planning to present a Drug Awareness Program on Tuesday, April 16, 1991, at 7:00 p.m. in the courtroom of the Coffee County Courthouse in Elba.

The general public, young and old, are being urged to attend this procession which will hopefully make them more aware of the drug problem in Elba as well as the surrounding area.

Some of the topics to be discussed will include: information about drugs in the Elba area, problems drugs present to both users and non-users, courtroom prosecution of drug cases, and what the public can do to help the authorities.

A question and answer session will follow the formal presentation of the above information.

According to Investigator Donnie Byrd, a member of the Elba Police Department who is presently assigned to the 12 Judicial Circuit Drug Task Force, there will be a display of many different types of drug abuse.

Those attending the session will be able to look at, hold and smell marijuana and crack cocaine. Hopefully this meeting will make the public more knowledgeable of the direct and indirect affect that drugs have on the everyday citizen's life.

Byrd stated that if the war on drugs is to be won, public participation is essential.

Anyone wishing further information concerning the meeting can contact Investigator Byrd at 897-2555 or 897-3881.

Water Expansion plans approved Tuesdays Evening

The Elba Water and Electric Board has approved a \$1,136,125 upgrade of the local public water system. The action was taken in a special meeting Tuesday afternoon.

The Board instructed Peters-Mitchell & Associates of Dothan to proceed with the plans for the project. They were told the planning stage would take four to five months.

The bidding process will take at least another month before the actual work can begin.

Included in the work will be major revisions and additions to furnish water to the Highway 84 West area where the new school complex is being built.

Also there will be a new tank on Highway 84 East to better supply the customers on the East side of the river and the rural water customers in that direction.

Other modifications of water lines and pumps are said to insure improvements of water pressure in other areas. Some work is also scheduled on the water wells themselves to compensate for the continually dropping water table.

Funding for the project has not been determined. The board is considering an increase in water rates but are also looking at comparisons with other towns to the Elba sewer rates.

A bond issue has been proposed, but some members believe they can save money by getting the funding from the local banks and avoid the fees for issuing the bonds.

Spring Tour Of Homes To Be Held

Tom and Dot Casaday love the outdoors so they built a house where they could enjoy nature. Overlooking the lake at Gateway Estates, the Casaday home in Enterprise will be on tour. The home is one of the three on Enterprise Garden Club Federation's Spring Tour of Homes. The tour is Sunday, April 7, from 1-5 p.m.

The Casaday home, located at 215 Lakeside Drive, has a formal exterior with a casual interior. The home is two and a half years old with four bedrooms and four and a half bathrooms. The den and foyer have a two-story ceiling with an open balcony.

The Casadays also enjoy a deck and screened porch. The home has many windows and French doors so that the woods and lake are always in plain view.

For Wanda Anderson the view is the 16th green and a lake at Enterprise Country Club's golf course. Mrs. Anderson's two-story home located at 216 Lakeside Drive has four bedrooms and four and a half bathrooms. There is a Florida room,

a spacious country kitchen and a large dining room with a service counter from the kitchen. The downstairs overlooks a beautiful enclosed brick patio.

The home is decorated entirely in shades of red, white and blue. The home is also a showcase of art, some by Mrs. Anderson herself, and furniture the family has collected over the years.

Sharon and Dale Wise, 102 Aztec Drive, chose to have a view of their swimming pool when building their home. The one-story heretofore shaped-home opens on every end to a patio that leads to the pool.

The Wise's, who have a 17-year-old daughter, built the 2,300 square-foot home five years ago. It has three bedrooms and two bathrooms. The master bath features a garden-tub surrounded by steps and mirrors. Sharon chose to decorate in mauve, pink, blue and white. She has a lovely collection of baskets, green plants, and wicker furniture. The white kitchen features glass cabinets.

When traveling north on High-

way 167, take a right after passing the left turn to North Industrial Park to reach the Wise's home.

Everyone is invited to the tour, not only to see the homes, but to enjoy fresh flower arrangements that will be placed in the homes by Garden Club members.

Tickets to the tour are \$5 and may be purchased from Azalea, Daffodil and Flower Lovers Garden Club members. Tickets may also be purchased at the door the day of the show.

Chairman of the tour is Jackie Quisenberry with Shirley Merritt serving as co-chairman. Maps of the tour may be obtained by calling 347-1171.

We can order your Wedding Invitations, Informals, Napkins, Etc. For You. THE ELBA CLIPPER 897-2823

You are invited to the 20th Annual



Arts & Crafts Fair FORT DEPOSIT, AL

**Saturday & Sunday
April 13 & 14
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**
15 miles south of Montgomery
Directional arrows mark the way to the Fort.
NO PETS WILL BE ALLOWED INSIDE THE FORT

**DIRT ROAD RACE
Saturday, April 13
5 Mile Race - 1 Mile Fun Run**
For Registration Form:
Write: P. O. Box 310
Fort Deposit, AL 36032
or Call 205-227-8580
after 5 p.m.

New Arrival

JAMISON KEITH BAKER

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Jamison came to live with Bobby and Lynn on March 25, 1991.

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Views From

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz

I'm not much on hiding Easter eggs; however, Sunday afternoon the Mularz clan took part in a big Easter egg hunt and I'll have to admit that I kind of enjoyed watching the kids hunt the eggs in a big open field. Some of the kids were more interested in just running around, while others were happy just cracking the eggs they found and sitting down and eating 'em. The Mularz girls, with a little help, combined to find 29 eggs, which was five more than they brought, so, I guess they do okay. I just wish someone in the family liked eating boiled eggs!

TIGERS CARRY 7-2 RECORD INTO AREA 2 BATTLES

The Elba Tigers played five games during the AEA break and claimed four wins to up their record to 7-2 heading into this week's key Area 2 contests against Rehoboth and Luverne.

The Tigers were impressive in posting wins over SA Andalusia and 6A Ozark, but struggled a bit before whipping Arion and then didn't play very well in losing to 1A G.W. Long. The Tigers have already proven they can play and compete with any team on their schedule, but they should have also proven to themselves that when they don't give it all they've got they can lose to anybody on their schedule.

Pitching continued to be a pleasant surprise for the Tigers as Mark Magwood tossed a 4-hitter against Andalusia, Hayden Young shut out Ozark, Shane Blanton pitched eight-innings in a win over Arion, and David Rowe was overpowering in another win over Arion and Mark Matthews came through in relief with three innings of hitless ball in the loss to Long. The pitching staff looked suspect before the start of the season, but has limited opponents to less than five runs in all but two games, and has been a very pleasant surprise.

The batting has been up and down through the early part of the year, but for the most part has been getting enough hits and runs to post a bunch of wins. No one player has been consistent every night out; however, Shane Blanton, David Rowe, Ronald Thigpen, Shawn Diehl and Hayden Young have all had big games. When the entire team gets hot at the same time, more than one players gets hot, the results could be runs in bunches!

I try to be realistic and not get too excited about the wins, and I know that four of the seven wins have been over 1A Arion, but I'm convinced that the Tigers are headed for another big season. The Tigers have competitors at every position on the field and the players have already proven in other sports that they are winners and will never quit. It may not be the most talented team ever, but it could be the most competitive.

ELBA LADY TIGERS HOPE FOR BETTER RESULTS

The Lady Tiger softball team failed to chalk up a win prior to the AEA break and won't play again until next week, but should come back fresh and ready to play after several days off. The softball team worked almost non-stop for five weeks before its opener and was practically burned-out before the season even started. The rest and time away from softball should do the Lady Tigers some good and I, for one, think a win isn't far away.

SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT TO KICKOFF LEAGUE SCHEDULE

The Men's Softball League will kickoff its season next week with a pre-season tournament and from the sound of things it might just be anybody's tournament. Mike's Gym is back in the league and could overpower some folks; however, Carrett Logging boasts some of the top players in the state and several of the other teams have been playing with success and could surprise the big boys. It should be interesting to say the least.

Daniels named All-State

The honors continued to roll in for Elba standout Bernie Daniels last week when he was named to the Dothan Eagle's 1990-91 "Super 12" for classes 1A-3A.

Daniels, a 5-10, senior, was one of the state's top scorers for the Elba Tigers with a 28.9 average and was feared by opposing defenses because of his deadly accuracy from the three-point line. His career high came this season in the prestigious Dothan Progress Holiday Tourney, when he scorched the nets for 45 points against 6A power Dothan. Daniels, a three-year starter for Coach Hank Kennedy's Tigers, was

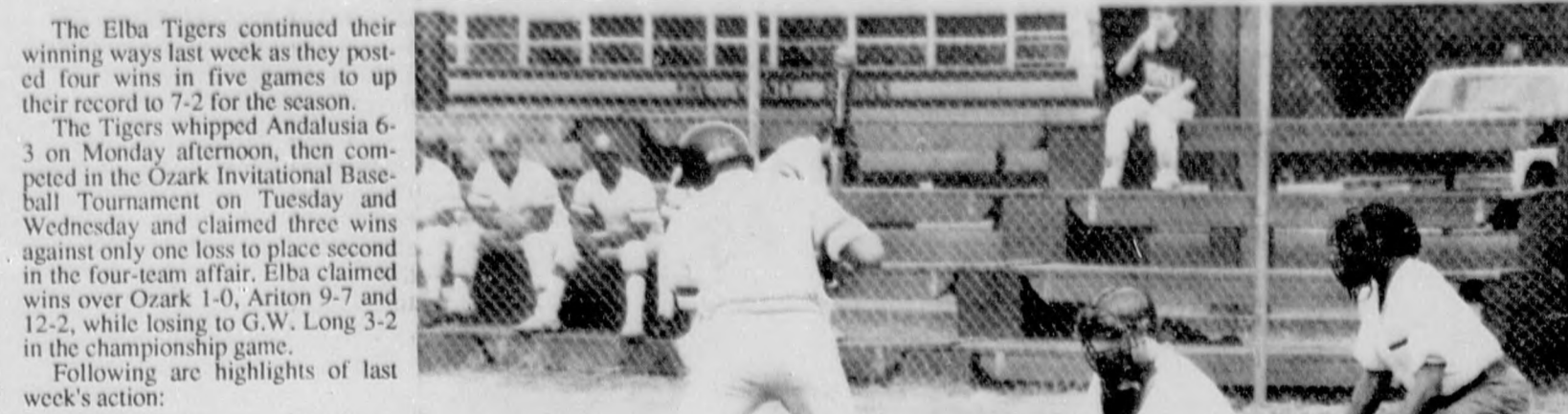
BIKE-A-THON
SATURDAY, APRIL 6 9:00 A.M.
STARTS - HAWKINS-WILLIAMS PARK
ENDS - LEGION FIELD
PROCEEDS TOP CYSTIC FIBROSIS
SPONSORED BY ELBA RECREATION DEPT.

*** RELOCATING ***
DR. HENRY COCHRAN, M.D.
ANNOUNCES
THE RELOCATION OF HIS
OFFICE TO
1208 HIGHLAND DRIVE
(DR. COOPER'S OLD OFFICE)
EFFECTIVE
APRIL 1, 1991

ATTENTION ALUMNI
OF
TROY STATE UNIVERSITY
Alumni Gathering for
COFFEE/GENEVA COUNTIES
April 9
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
COLONY INN, Williamsburg Room
GLOVER AVENUE
ENTERPRISE
TSU Guests
Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr., Robert Earl Stewart,
Larry Blakeney, Dr. Johnny Long, Dr. David Brown,

SPORTS

Tigers up record to 7-2



ELBA'S SHANE BLANTON BLOCKS A LOW PITCH DURING A RECENT TIGER WIN. BLANTON HAS LED THE TIGERS TO A 7-2 RECORD WITH HIS HARD HITTING AND CLUTCH FIELDING BEHIND THE PLATE.

ANDALUSIA 6

ARION 7

The Elba Tigers jumped out to an early 5-0 lead and held on to dump the Andalusia Bulldogs 6-3, Monday afternoon in Elba.

Hayden Young opened the inning with a double, and after Shane Blanton drew a walk, Shawn Diehl ripped a double to drive in the first run. Elba combined 3 hits with 4 walks in the third inning to score 4 runs and take the lead for good!

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Drugs In The 90's

by Chief Freddie Hanchey
Elba Police Department

The young people of today are constantly being bombarded with information about drugs and drug abuse. Some of that information is factual and comes from those persons who are genuinely concerned about drug use and the problems associated with it. Unfortunately our young people are also getting a lot of wrong information about drugs from "friends" or from those who would profit from their misery once they begin using illicit drugs. Our young people also face a tremendous amount of pressure from their peers to try drugs. "Friends" will ask them to use the drug "just once, it won't hurt." Those who become involved with drugs will soon learn that there is no "just once," there will always come another time when that "friend" will want you to try another drug "just once" or use a drug just one more time.

The real tragedy is there are so many different types of drugs readily available. The drugs more often abused include alcoholic beverages, marijuana and the various forms of cocaine. There are all types of pills including stimulants or uppers and depressants or downers.

I think it is very important that we know what the effects of each of these drugs are on the user and what dangers are readily associated with continued abuse.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Alcohol acts as a depressant on the central nervous system. Alcohol slows reaction time and makes it difficult for the user to think clearly at times. Young people should know that the number one cause of death in youngsters of driving age is alcohol related traffic accidents. Long term abuse of alcohol wrecks havoc on the user, causing liver disease, memory loss, and various other alcohol related diseases. Many youngsters think the only reason the drinking age is 21 is to keep them from having "fun." In fact, the real reason is, youngsters' bodies are constantly going through changes as they continue to grow and alcohol can affect that growing process.

MARIJUANA

At one point in time, marijuana was classified as both a stimulant and a depressant. In fact, marijuana is a hallucinogen. Users describe a feeling of euphoria or well being. Some who use the drug say they become very drowsy after smoking a "joint" (marijuana cigarette). The hallucinogenic effect causes distortion in time and place. Some users have said they could "feel" or "see" music. Most marijuana users state the drug "slows things down." Marijuana is derived from the plant *cannabis sativa* and there are more than 400 different chemicals in marijuana smoke. Of those 400 chemicals, there are 60 different substances that are found only in marijuana smoke called cannabinoids. The principle

substance in marijuana that is responsible for getting the user "high" is Delta 9 tetrahydrocannabinol or as it is more commonly known "THC." There have been several thousand studies conducted on marijuana in the last 15 to 20 years and not one has had anything positive to say about the drug. Scientist tell us it will be a couple of years before we can fully start to measure the effects the drug has had on people who were regular users in the 60's and 70's. Science also tells us, marijuana today is much more potent than the marijuana of the 60's and 70's, as much as 5 to 20 times more powerful. Marijuana users place themselves in danger of developing lung cancer, memory loss, chromosome damage, hormonal changes and other related medical problems. Another very important factor, marijuana is ILLEGAL! Possession may lead to arrest, a criminal record and jail!

COCAINE

Cocaine is the most potent stimulant, of natural origin, known to man. Cocaine is extracted from the leaves of the coca plant (Eitroyllon coca) which has been cultivated in the Andean highlands of South America since prehistoric times. People in the region chew the leaves for refreshment and relief of fatigue.

Pure cocaine was first isolated in the 1880's and was used as a topical anesthetic in eye surgery. Cocaine was also used in surgery of the nose and throat. Many of cocaine's therapeutic uses are now obsolete with the advent of safer drugs as local anesthetics.

Cocaine is distributed as a white crystalline powder and is often diluted or "cut" with other substances like lactose (milk sugar), mannitol (a laxative), and local anesthetics like lidocaine and procaine. Powdered cocaine (cocaine hydrochloride) is usually snorted or inhaled into the nose, it can also be injected into the bloodstream. Cocaine in this form is very expensive. Cost varies depending on what part of the country you are in and the availability of the drug. Prices recently have ranged from a low of approximately 1,300 dollars per ounce to a high of approximately 3,000 dollars per ounce.

Crack cocaine, the most dangerous form of the drug, has become very popular of late. Crack is the smokable form of the drug. It is cheaper per dose than powdered cocaine and is more potent. Crack, when smoked, reaches the brain in from 3 to 8 seconds and can be as much as 90% pure. This form of cocaine is extremely addictive. A single person on a "crack binge" can smoke several hundred dollars worth of the drug in just a couple of days. Users tell us that crack produces a tremendous "high" that is followed by an equally intense "low" or depression. They also report the amount they use is related directly to the availability of that drug and their ability to buy it. As one user put it, "you support your habit by dealing, stealing or becoming a prostitute."

People involved with the regular use of crack cocaine often lose tremendous amounts of body weight and lose all interest in everything except the drug itself. Scientists tell us cocaine works directly on the brain, specifically the pleasure sensors and for this reason, cocaine is the most dangerous drug known to man at the present time.

Laboratory animals have been used in studies conducted on the effects of cocaine and the results were quite alarming! Laboratory rats lost approximately 50% of their body weight within 30 days of beginning use of the drug and 90% of that test group died within that same time period. Lab technicians found they did not have to "force feed" the drug to the animals, in fact the animals took the drug readily. Male laboratory monkeys ignored a receptive female, chose cocaine over food and would press a button as many as 12,000 times for a single dose of cocaine.

It seems like we are constantly reading in the news about a celebrity who has died from cocaine overdose, but it is important to remember you don't have to be rich and famous to die from a drug overdose.

In some instances cocaine has killed the user with the first dose. Cocaine causes elevated blood pressure levels, increased body temperature, increased heart rate and can lead to stroke, heart attack, seizures, respiratory failure and death.

Parents, we urge you to learn more about the effects of drugs and drug abuse. Talk with your children, keep that line of communication open.

Young people, we encourage you to learn all you can about drugs, why they are harmful and ways to resist those constant pressures to experiment with drugs.

We must all become active in helping people to resist drugs, in helping those with a drug problem to seek help and by reporting suspected activity. If everyone pitches in, we can turn this thing around.

24-Hour Emergency Service

1-800-342-0774

24-Hour Helpline:

1-800-COCAINE

JUST
SAY
NOTHIS MESSAGE IS SPONSORED BY THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES WHICH
TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.

Riviera Motel Hwy 84 E Elba 897-2204	Big Bear N. Claxton Avenue Elba 897-2417	Vivian's Hair Fashions Hwy 87 Elba 897-2361
Russell Cash and Carry and General Contracting Elba 897-6031	Dale Mosley Photography 205 N. Claxton Elba 897-2233	Hornsby Satellite Inc. Hwy 51 New Brockton 894-6335
Gloria's Beauty Salon and The Sound Center 897-5568	Boswell Insurance 427 W. Davis St. Elba 897-5523	Hair Haven Hwy 84 New Brockton 347-6113
Sears Merchant 203 Bypass @ Hwy 84 W Elba 897-5705	Hair Company 211 Claxton Elba 897-6752	The Blacksmith Shop Hwy 84 New Brockton 347-6172
Whitman Drugs 305 W. Davis Elba 897-2407	Bradshaw Pest Control 244 E. Davis St. Elba 897-6531	Adkinson Electronics Hwy 84 New Brockton 347-1921
Cox Service Station W. Davis Elba 897-2414	Bradley Florist & Gift 305 Collier St. Elba 897-3422	Dixie Cleaning Systems Hwy 84 New Brockton 347-1809
Dixie Printing Company 217 Court Avenue Elba 897-2039	Lee's Paint & Body Shop Reese Avenue Elba 897-6276	Jones Grocery & Auto Salvage Hwy 84 New Brockton 894-2222
Lawford's Ace Hardware S. Court Square Elba 897-2300	Westside Beauty Shop N. Clark Avenue Elba 897-2759	Early Years Day Care & Preschool 615 E. McKinnon New Brockton 894-5073
Total Interiors 319 Davis Elba 897-2947	LaRue's Restaurant 1426 Hickman Ave Elba 897-3210	Peacock Drug Company McKinnon New Brockton 894-6100
Bob English Real Estate 325 Claxton Elba 897-3456	Virgil Coleman's Mortuary 703 Adams St. Elba 897-6148	The Farm Store Hwy 122 New Brockton 894-5531
Mike McGuire State Farm Insu- rance 207 Adkinson Elba 897-2229	Ranch House Cafeteria Hwy 84 W Elba 897-6791	Waylon Jones Motor Co. Hwy 134E Enterprise 347-4302
Goodson's Garage N. Factory Avenue Elba 897-6791	Cauley's Grocery Danley Crossroads Elba 897-6711	Brown's Automotive 656 Hwy 84 ByPass Enterprise 393-2386
Skinner's Furniture N. Factory Avenue Elba 897-2800	Job Research Development Center 172 Jackson Elba 897-6674	Ray's Auto Glass Service 1027 Rucker Blvd Enterprise 393-

ROUND AND ABOUT WITH ERIA

O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: because his mercy endureth for ever.
Let Israel now say, that his mercy endureth for ever.
Let them now that fear the Lord say that his mercy endureth for ever.
I called upon the Lord in distress: the Lord answered me, and set me in a large place.
The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?
The Lord taketh my part with them that help me: therefore shall I see my desire upon them that hate me.
It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man.
All nations compassed me about: but in the name of the Lord will I destroy them.
Psalms 118:1-10

Thinking of You Praying for You

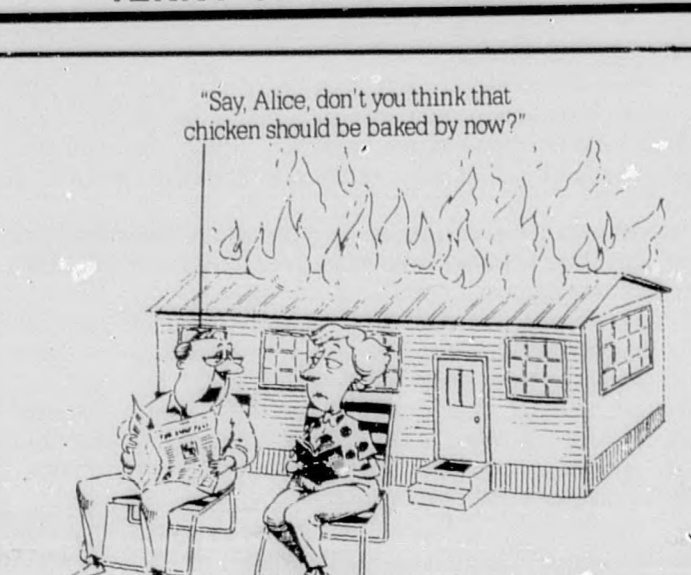
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BY ERIA BELCHER

Juanita Brooks
Rev. A. L. Burks

Mulberry District Union
The Mulberry District Ministers, Deacons, and Laymen's Union convened with the Mt. Canaan Baptist Church (Seagriff), Alabama, Sunday, March 31, 1991, Rev. E. Magwood, pastor.

Those from Elba attending the Union were: Tillman Lindsey, Vera Williams and Shane, Alie G. Henderson, Ernestine Kelley, Maria Tiffany, Melissa and Jana; R.C. Carpenter, Annie Pearl, Brittain, and Cathryn; Rev. E. Magwood, Ruby, and Emanuel; Grover and Eria Belcher, Rev. J.L. Caldwell, President.

Good Friday Services
The Mulberry Missionary Baptist Association Minister Alliance was held Friday night, March 29, 1991 at 7:00 p.m. at the Mulberry Educational Building, Rt. 2, Hwy. 166, Elba, Alabama.

The Seven Last Words of Christ From the Cross
Father forgive them - Rev. Cunningham
Mistress of Order - Sis. Gladys Yelverton, President of Mulberry District Matrons

Reading - Sis. Estella Williams
Presentation of Speaker - Sis. Billy E. Wright

Remarks - Rev. J.G. Chatham, Moderator
Mistress of Order - Sis. Gladys Yelverton, President of Mulberry District Matrons

The Pastor Rev. A.R. Williams, and other members of the Rocky Head M.B. Church, Elba, traveled to Quincy, FL for worship services at the Blessed Hope Church, Sunday, March 31 (Easter Sunday) 1991.

Those attending were: Rev. A.R. Williams, Bessie, Shakeitha, Chastity, Aubretta and Ray, J.L. and Estella Williams, Kimberly Rideaux, Patti Porter, Kimberly Kelley, Cynthia Sparks, Evelyn Guiley, Kayla Phillips, Novella Robinson, Wallace and Matia Belcher, and Rodrick Riddix. Rev. Gumble is pastor of Blessed Hope.

Joyce B. Johnson, Kathy, Theo and Greg Kelley, Tusculumia, Alabama were guests in the homes of Grover and Eria Belcher, Ernestine Kelley, Evelyn Guiley, Elba, and Wiley and Juanita Brooks, Enterprise, during the A.E.A. holidays (Spring break). Mr. Tillman Lindsey and Kimberly Kelley, Elba, who had been visiting the Johnsons returned home with them.

Mr. Lindsey said, "I had the time of my life. Joyce took me on a tour of the Alabama Music Hall of Fame in Tusculumia, Helen Keller home, and worship services at Hopewell C.P. Church, Leighton, AL; the shopping mall in Florence, and the T.V.A. Reservation in Muscle Shoals and the Muscle Shoals area in general. Hopefully, I'll be able to visit again soon."

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
Default having been made in the payment of the principal debt secured by mortgage executed by Randall G. Bedsole and Pamela D. Bedsole, husband and wife, to Mortgage Corporation of the South, recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate, Volume 81A at Page 659, which mortgage with the debt thereby secured is in Miscellaneous Book 35 at Page 299, and the whole indebtedness thereby secured is due and payable and the said mortgage is being foreclosed, notice is hereby given that under power of the court the mortgage and the debt thereby secured will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door in the City of Elba, Alabama, on April 25, 1991, at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon, at the County Courthouse, in the City of Elba, Alabama, as described in and conveyed by said mortgage the same being situated in the County of Coffee, State of Alabama, and described as follows: to-wit: Lot 1, Block A, according to that certain plat, a subdivision of Lots 1 and 2, Block A, Pine Cove subdivision, to the City of Elba, Alabama, as the same appears of record in Plat Book 1, Page 64, Office of the Judge of Probate of Coffee County, Elba Division.

Also included the following chattel items included in the mortgage: Wall to wall carpet and range.
Probate records indicate that the record title holder is, Doretha E. Donahue. The address of the above property is 701 N. Claxton Avenue, Elba, Alabama. Subject to easements, restrictions, reservations appearing of record.
Said sale and conveyance will also be made subject to existing Federal Tax Liens, and or Special Assessments, if any, which might adversely affect title to subject property.
Such sale will be made as provided in said mortgage for the purpose of paying said debt secured by said mortgage with interest thereon, any amounts required to be paid for taxes, insurance or other charges provided in said mortgage, and the expenses of foreclosure, including a reasonable attorney's fee.
REAL ESTATE FINANCING, INC.
Traverse
Frederick T. Enslin
Attorney at Law
Post Office Box 231207
Montgomery, Alabama 36123-1207
Phone (205) 244-7333
Attorney for Transferee 4-4-3C

ESTATE OF Kelle M. Barber, Deceased PROBATE COURT
Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 28th day of March, 1991, by the Hon. Marion B. Brunson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within ninety days of the date of the granting of said letters of administration, to-wit: April 11, 1991, at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon, at the County Courthouse, in the City of Elba, Alabama, as described in and conveyed by said mortgage the same being situated in the County of Coffee, State of Alabama, and described as follows: to-wit: Lot 1, Block A, according to that certain plat, a subdivision of Lots 1 and 2, Block A, Pine Cove subdivision, to the City of Elba, Alabama, as the same appears of record in Plat Book 1, Page 64, Office of the Judge of Probate of Coffee County, Elba Division.

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REAL ESTATE FINANCING, INC.
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69¢	69¢	69¢	\$2.19	\$2.99
8 OZ. SIZE	4 OZ. SIZE	PKG.	4.6 OZ. PUMP OR 6.4 OZ. TUBE	24 CT. BTL.

FROZEN FOOD FAVORITES

SAUSAGE/PEPPERONI OR SUPREME FROZEN Pappalos Pizza	TV BRAND CRINKLE CUT Frozen Potatoes	MEADOW GOLD Nutty Sundae	WELCH'S FROZEN CONCENTRATED Grape Juice	VAN DE KAMPS FROZEN MINCED Fish Sticks
\$3.99	\$2.59	\$1.29	89¢	\$3.99
21.8 OZ. PKG.	5 LB. BAG	6 PACK	12 OZ. CAN	26.4 OZ. PKG.

FLORIDAGOLD FROZEN CONCENTRATED Orange Juice
\$1.39
12 OZ. CAN

HICKORY SMOKED
FAMILY PACK
SLICED

Slab Bacon
\$1.09

USDA CHOICE
FAMILY PACK
FULL CUT

Round Steak
\$1.79

USDA CHOICE
FAMILY PACK

Cubed Steak
\$2.49

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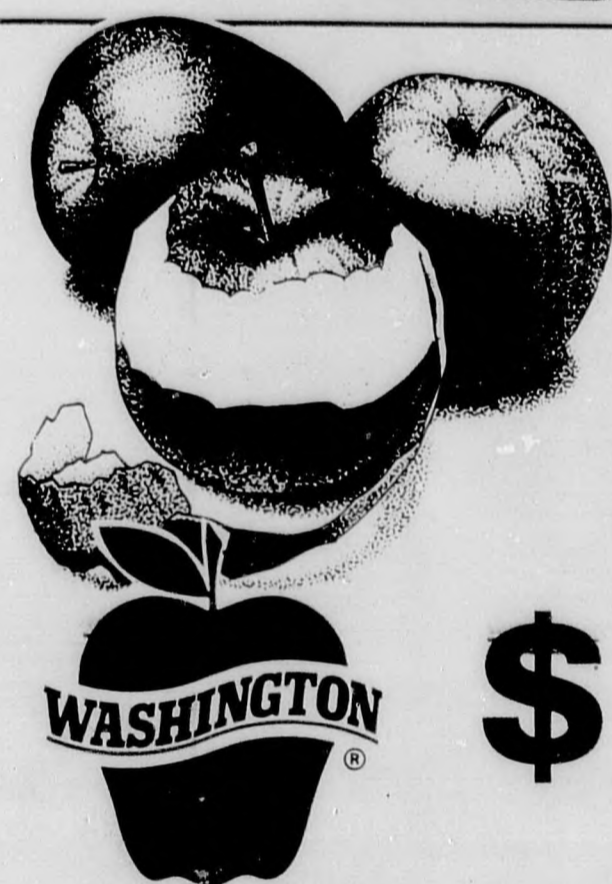


LOW IN CHOLESTEROL
LOW IN SODIUM

Russet Potatoes

79¢

5 LB.
BAG



WASHINGTON STATE
RED

Delicious Apples

\$1 39

3 LB.
BAG



SNOW
WHITE

Mushrooms

99¢

8 OZ.
CTN.



FRESH
GREEN

Cabbage

4 99¢

LBS.



RED
SEEDLESS

Grapes

\$1 19

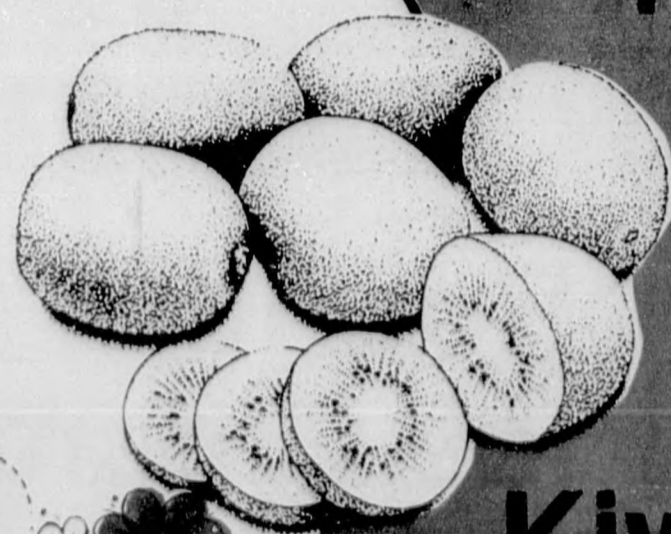
LB.



FRESH
SPINACH

Fresh Spinach

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FRESH
CALIFORNIA

Kiwifruit

4 99¢



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4 DAYS ONLY!

WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY, APRIL 3 - APRIL 6

50% OFF

• 14KT GOLD CHAINS
AND BRACELETS

40% OFF

• SELECTED TOTAL
WEIGHT DIAMONDS
• 14KT GOLD EARRINGS

30% OFF

• DIAMOND RINGS, MEN'S
RINGS, STERLING SILVER
AND CULTURED PEARLS

25% OFF

• FASHION JEWELRY

25% OFF

• SELECTED WATCHES
FROM CITIZEN,
PULSAR, SEIKO AND
BULOVA/CARAVELLE

30% OFF

• GOLD JEWELRY WITH
DIAMOND ACCENTS

30% OFF

• GEMSTONES, INCLUDING
RUBIES, SAPPHIRES, BLUE
TOPAZ AND AMETHYST
• SELECTED DIAMOND
ANNIVERSARY BANDS

20% OFF

• SELECTED SOLITAIRE

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Available only at JCPenney stores with Fine Jewelry
departments. Diamond sale includes only that jewelry
departments constitute the greatest value.
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your nearest JCPenney store, we will gladly order it for
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Regular prices appearing in this ad are offering
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Sale prices effective from Wednesday, April 3rd, through
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NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

1-4



25% OFF

SELECTED
FRENCH NAVY
SPORTSWEAR
FOR MISSES

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ALL ALICIA
SEPARATES
FOR MISSES

25% OFF ALL

WORTHINGTON
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SEPARATES
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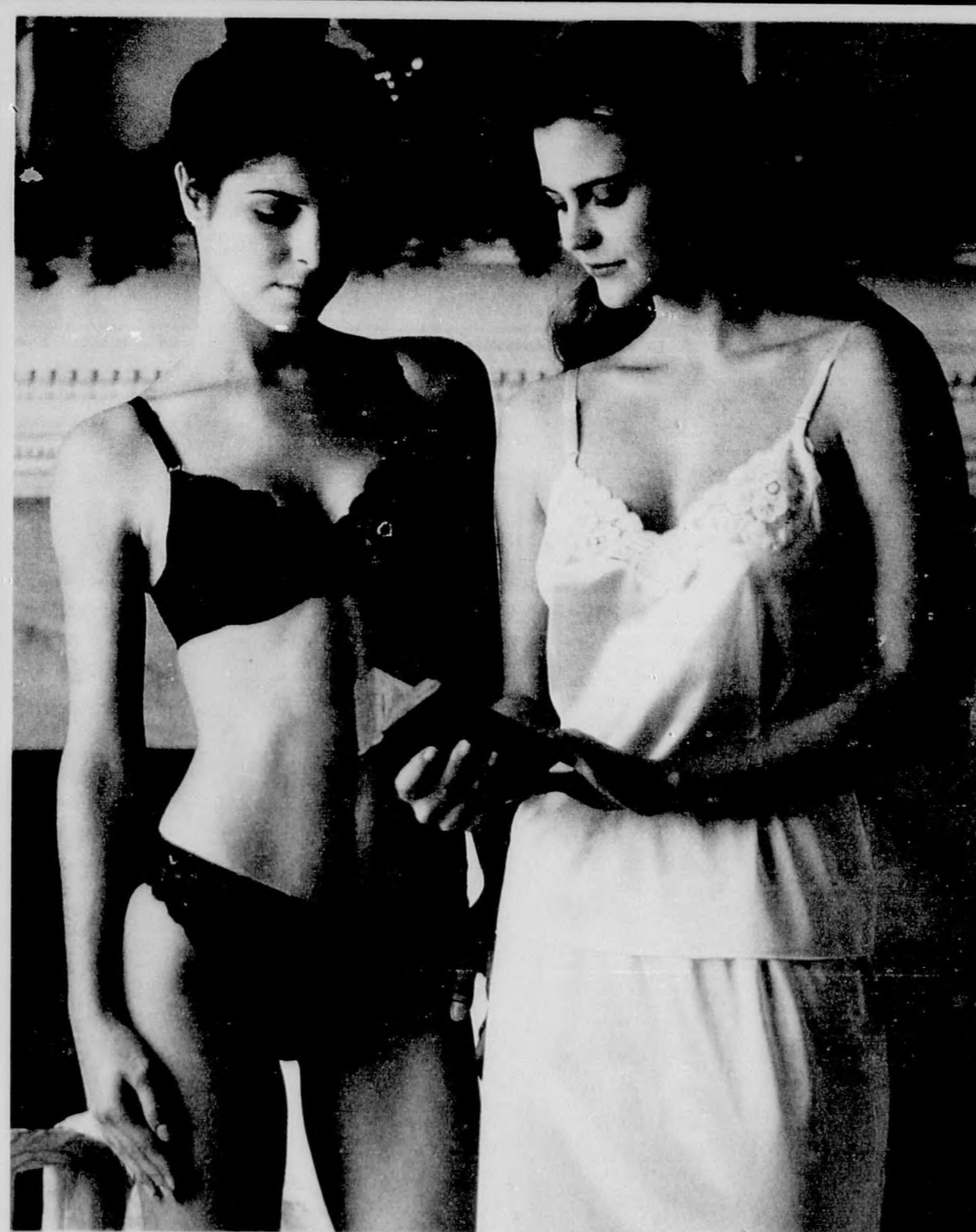
JCPENNEY DAYS SALE



\$10 OFF

ALL ROMPERS
AND
ALL SHORTALLS

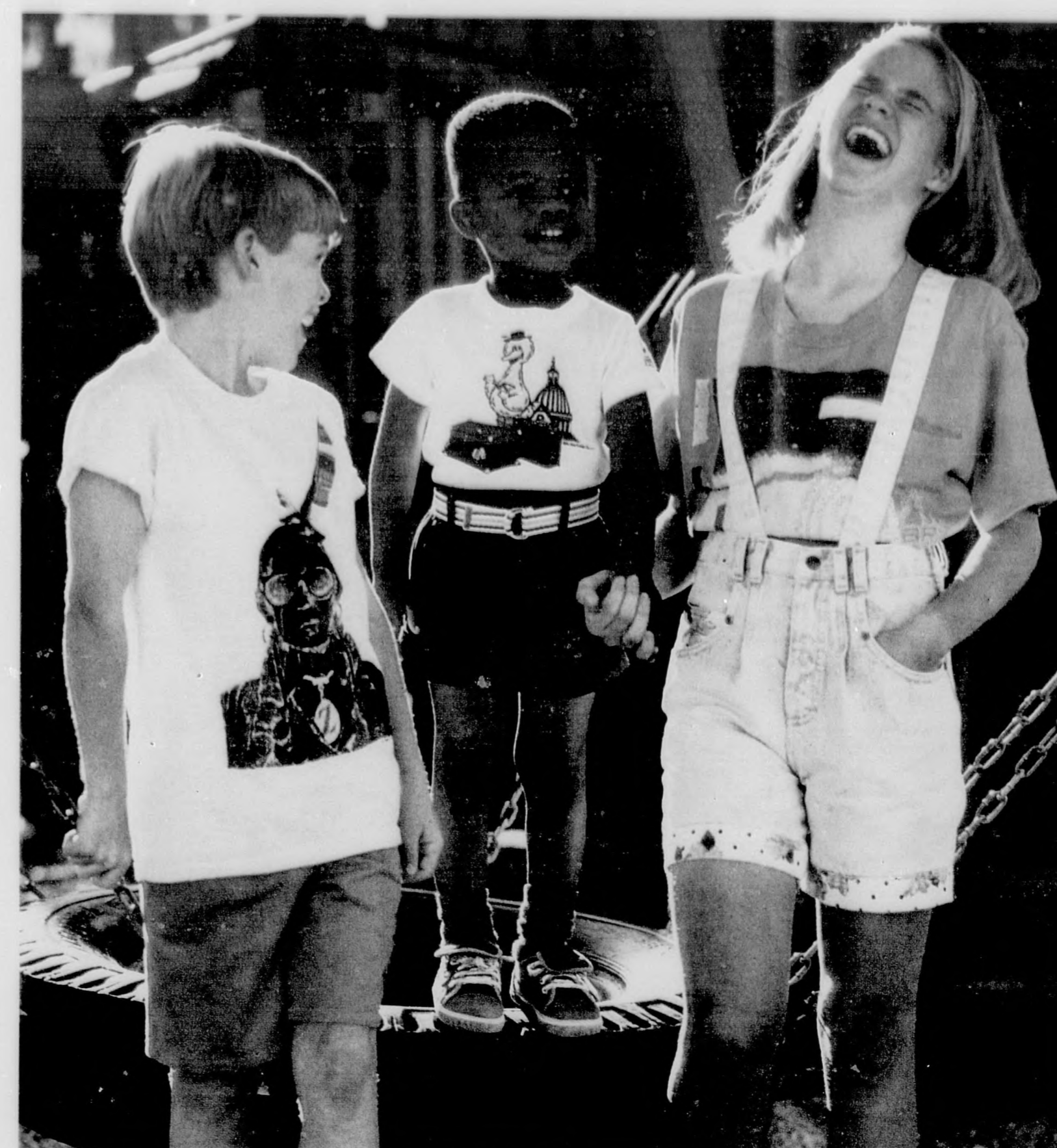
Sale \$18 to \$26. Reg. \$28 to \$36.
Summertime fun starts with new fashions
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Excellent choices for underneath your most sophisticated apparel. Little luxuries just
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APPAREL FOR
BOYS, GIRLS,
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TODDLERS

**20% TO
25% OFF**

FOR BOYS & GIRLS:
ALL SHORTS AND NEW
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ALL SWIMWEAR AND
NOVELTY TEES

FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS:
SELECTED SHORT SLEEVE TOPS &
SHORTS. ALL OKIE DOKIE®
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CHILDREN'S SHOE SALE!

BUY 1 PAIR AT REGULAR PRICE
SAVE **20%**

BUY 2 PAIR AT REGULAR PRICE
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BUY 3 PAIR AT REGULAR PRICE
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JCPENNEY DAYS SALE



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ALL PRISCILLAS,
ALL PANELS,
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NATALIE LACE PANEL

Reg. \$24. Add the old-fashioned charm of floral
jacquard lace to your home. Knit of polyester.
Sale \$23.99. Reg. \$32. Ruffled Victorian swag
valance. 84 x 84.
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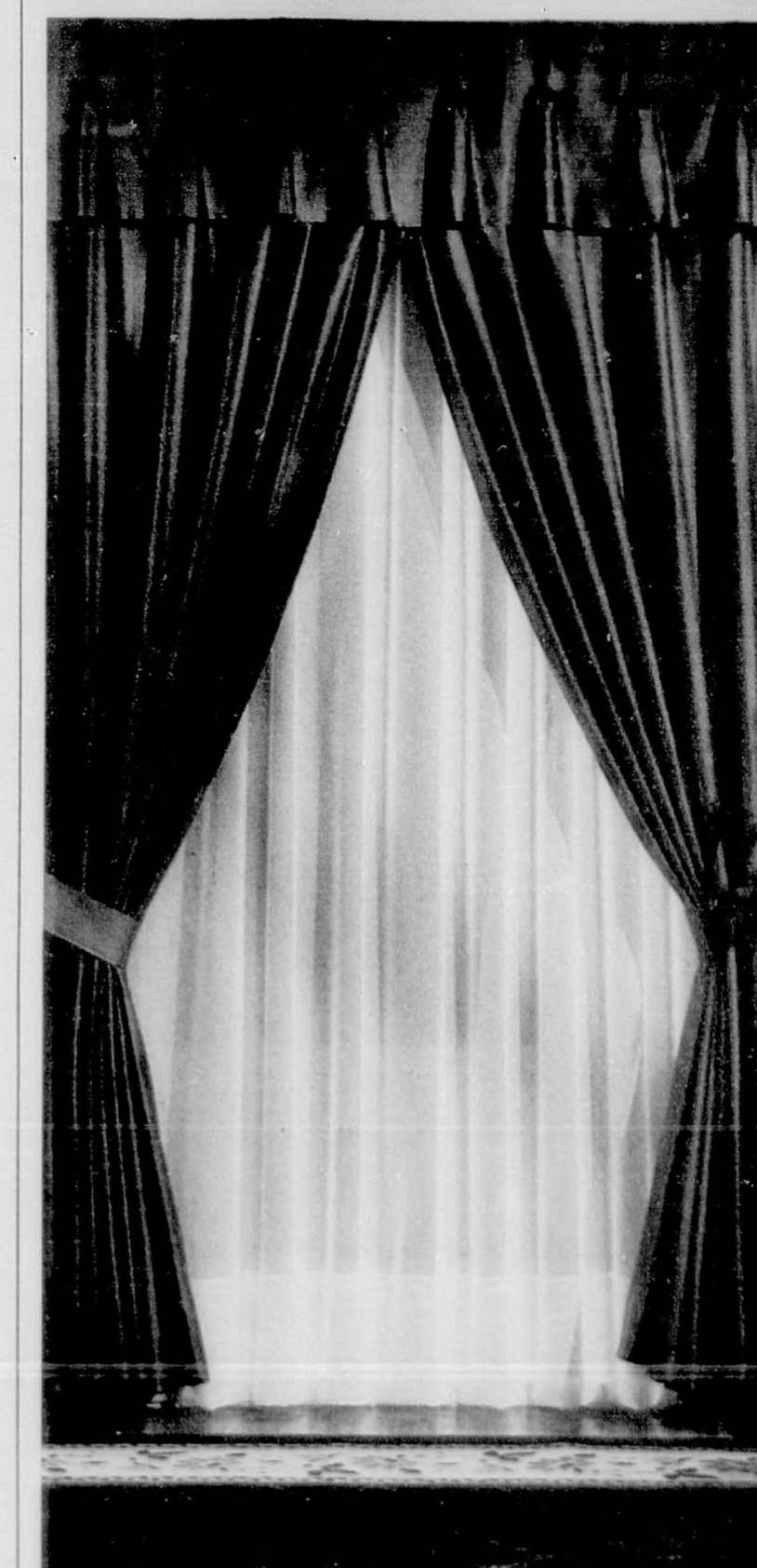
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Reg. \$60. Stunning draperies with the refined look
of silk. Weighted and mitered corners for graceful
draping. "Dacron" polyester with full lining.
Sale \$36. Reg. \$48. Scarf valance.
Sale \$9.75. Reg. \$13. Tiebacks.
Other sizes also available at similar savings.

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SUPREME DRAPERIES

Reg. \$42. pr. 50 x 84. Supreme antique
satin draperies.
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25% OFF

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• ALL SHORTS FOR YOUNG MEN AND MEN'S SIZES

25% OFF

• ALL THE FOX, ST. JOHN'S BAY AND PAR FOUR SPORTSHIRTS

25% OFF

• ALL USA OLYMPIC BRAND APPAREL AND FOOTWEAR FOR MEN

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Select from whitewashed, stonewashed and prewashed.



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• ALL TOWNCRAFT® 2-PIECE SUITED SEPARATES
Reg. \$145. Sportcoat and slacks. Also sold separately.

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• ALL STAFFORD EXECUTIVE® SPORTCOATS & TROUSERS

Sale 138.75. Reg. \$175. Contemporary times call for contemporary appeal. Try a Stafford® Executive® sportcoat of 100% silk.

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Sale 21.99. Reg. \$28. Stafford® Executive® pinpoint oxford of cotton-polyester.

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Regularly \$100 to \$138. Sale 79.99 to 115.99.

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The Elba Clipper

VOLUME 94

35 CENTS

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1991

1 SECTION 14 PAGES (plus 2 adv. inserts)

NUMBER 37

ORIGINALLY THE CHARGE WAS MURDER AND ASSAULT IN THE FIRST-DEGREE

Creel convicted on lesser charge of homicide by vehicle

by Marvin McIlwain
Editor

Last Friday afternoon at approximately 4:35 p.m., a Coffee County jury composed of eight men and four women returned a verdict of guilty in the trial of Joseph Dwight Creel, 25, of Elba.

The jury rendered the verdict after listening to more than three days of testimony and deliberating for more than nine hours and forty-five minutes.

Creel, who was originally charged with two counts of murder and one count of first-degree assault, was found guilty on a lesser charge by the jury of homicide by vehicle (2 counts) and assault in the second-degree (1 count).

The charges had resulted from a two-car collision which occurred on July 8, 1990 at approximately 5 a.m. in the morning.

Dorothy A. Skinner, 56, of Elba and Scotty Wayne Norris, 19, also of Elba were killed in the mishap. Mrs. Myrtle L. Guy, 68, the driver of the one of the vehicles sustained injuries in the wreck. Mrs. Skinner was a passenger in Mrs. Guy's automobile.

Norris was a passenger in the car driven by Creel as was Ronnie Crawley, 22, of Elba. Crawley received no serious injuries in the crash.

On December 10, 1990, a Coffee County grand jury indicted Joseph Creel on two counts of murder in the deaths of Skinner and Norris and one count of first-degree assault for injuries sustained by Mrs. Guy in the wreck.

During the course of the trial which began Monday, April 1, Assistant District Attorney Al Smith, through the state's witnesses, developed testimony to show that Creel was under the influence of alcohol.

driving his vehicle at a high rate of speed, and on the wrong side of the road at the time of the collision. The wreck happened on Alabama Highway 189 approximately four miles south of Elba.

The attorney for the defense, Merrill Shirley, attempted to discredit the testimony given by the state's witnesses by calling the defense's own experts. A clinical chemist and toxicologist, a land surveyor, and a retired engineer experience in highway construction were called to testify for the defense.

State toxicologist Laura Shevlin testified that two separate blood samples drawn from Creel, one at 8:45 a.m. and another at 9:15 a.m. on the morning of the wreck, showed his blood alcohol level to be .046 percent and .031 percent respectively.

Alabama law considers a person to be legally drunk if their blood alcohol level is .10 percent and under the influence if the level is between .05 percent and .10 percent.

In a hypothetical case, Shevlin stated that Creel's blood alcohol level at the time of the wreck could have been as high as .15 percent and as low as .10 percent, but this could not be considered to be an absolute fact.

Defense's witness Christopher Frings, a clinical chemist and toxicologist testified that too many variables existed to determine an accurate blood alcohol level for Creel at the time of the wreck.

An eye witness to the crash, Clinton Cain, testified on behalf of the state that Creel's car was traveling at a high rate of speed as it ran off the pavement in front of the home where he was at the time of the crash.

Cain is a resident of Malone, Florida, but he was staying at his old home place just north of the Basin Community. The house is approximately 100 yards from where the two cars collided on July 8, 1990.

He stated that when the Creel car pulled back on the road it veered across the centerline of the highway striking the Guy automobile.

In cross examination, Shirley contended that "Mr. Cain could not have seen all that he said he saw."

Mr. Cain countered with, "I saw what I saw!"

The defense through "expert" witnesses attempted to show that the condition of the road was a factor in causing the crash.

During the course of the trial, the state called witnesses to testify that Creel had been drinking and was under the influence of alcohol at the time of the collision. The defense countered with testimony that he (Creel) was not drunk and drank only a small amount of beer on the night and early morning hours preceding the wreck.

Last Thursday afternoon, after the prosecution and defense had presented their witnesses and given their final arguments, Circuit Judge Gary McAliley charged the jury as to their duty according to the law. The jury charge took almost an hour. At approximately 5:35 p.m. the jury went into deliberation.

At 8:30 p.m., a member of the jury told the judge that they needed to go home, "we're tired." Judge McAliley agreed that the case had been long and tiring and he instructed members of the jury to go home and get a good night's rest. They were instructed to return and begin deliberation at 9:00 a.m. on Friday morning.

During deliberation Friday, the judge was asked more than once to again instruct the jury members as to the law and its application in the case. Each time Judge McAliley, accompanied the defendant, both attorneys, and the court recorder, entered the jury room and read the law to the jury as it applied to the case.

At one point, it appeared that the jury would fail to reach a verdict - become a hung jury. McAliley told the members of the jury, "I cannot, at this time, in good conscience let you go." He continued, "You can take as long as you want. No other jury can do as good a job as you. No jury can come back on another date and get anything else that you have not gotten by way of evidence."

The jury was informed that arrangements could be made for them to return, if necessary, the following week and continue deliberations.

"It is not my duty to force or coerce you into making a decision," said Judge McAliley. "but I feel that it is the wishes of both sides in this matter that a decision be rendered."

At approximately 4:35 p.m. Friday afternoon, the jury returned to the courtroom and informed the judge that they had reached a verdict of homicide by vehicle - two counts and guilty of assault in the second-degree.

Creel remains free on \$10,000 bond for each homicide offense and \$5,000 bond on the second-degree assault offense for a total of \$25,000.

Members of Creel's family were visibly shaken by the verdict and he stood with head bowed as the jury's decision was read.

Shirley's only comments were, "We're going to evaluate all of our options, including the option to appeal. Obviously it's been a long and exhausting week."

A request by Shirley that his client have a pre-sentence investigation was granted by the judge. McAliley scheduled Creel's sentencing for Wednesday, May 1, 1991.

Homicide by vehicle, a felony, is punishable by one to five years imprisonment or a fine of up to \$2,000 or imprisonment and a fine. Second-degree assault, a felony, is punishable by one to ten years imprisonment or a fine of up to \$5,000, or imprisonment and a fine.

Creel remains free on \$10,000 bond for each homicide offense and \$5,000 bond on the second-degree assault offense for a total of \$25,000.

Mrs. Long was treated and released from Elba General Hospital for injuries received in an alleged scuffle with her husband.

Mr. Long has been charged with reckless driving, fleeing or attempting to elude, resisting arrest, two counts of criminal mischief in the first-degree, one count of criminal mischief in the second-degree, and assault in the third-degree. He was placed in the Coffee County Jail in Elba.

Chief Hanchey stated that the incident still under investigation by his department and that the traffic accident portion was investigated by Trooper Willie White of the Alabama State Troopers.

Office Senn, who was in sight of the Long vehicle, reported that Long turned right at the intersection of Al. 203 and U. S. Hwy. 84, as if he was going out 84W, but he suddenly made another u-turn and headed back in the direction from which he came.

At this point, Officer Blair had turned around to follow Long if he continued to evade the pursuit. At a sudden Long stopped, put his car in reverse and backed into Blair's police cruiser.

Investigator Randy White who by this time had become involved in the pursuit approached the Long car from the front in his police car and Long proceeded to ram him head-on.

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HOUSTON COUNTY JURY

Murder conviction in Vann death

by Marvin McIlwain
Editor

A collision of a van and a pickup truck which occurred June 23, 1990 on U.S. Highway 84 near Dothan took the life of Morgan Weeden Vann, 32, of Elba.

Shortly last the crash, Shirley June McCall was charged with murder in the death of Vann.

Last Wednesday evening, a Houston County jury found McCall guilty of murder in the traffic fatality after hearing testimony that he was driving under the influence of alcohol and on the wrong side of the road.

State witnesses testified that McCall's blood alcohol level was 237 percent at the time of the collision and also, he was driving on the wrong side of a four-lane highway.

The 237 percent blood alcohol level is more than twice the state's legal limit of .10 percent to operate a vehicle.

During trial testimony, McCall reported stated that he had been arrested numerous times for driving under the influence.

Houston County's Assistant District Attorney Gary Maxwell reportedly stated, "I don't think he (McCall) intended to kill anyone, but what he did was so dangerous it was murder!"

A presentation hearing has been set for May 13 by Circuit Judge Denny Holloway.

When Long reached the intersection of Al. 203 (by-pass) and Highway 87, he turned west on Al. 203. According to police officers, Long, after stopping at the intersection of Claxton and Al. 203, ran the red light and continued around the by-pass toward U. S. Hwy. 84W.

The 12th Judicial Circuit to three. They are Judge Terry Butts, Judge Gary McAliley, and now, Judge John Crawley.

Last Sunday, John Crawley was sworn in as the newest circuit judge for the 12th Judicial Circuit composed of Pike and Coffee counties.

The Troy attorney was appointed Wednesday, April 3, 1991, by Gov. Guy Hunt to fill the vacancy created when Judge Ritley Green, Jr. retired last January 1, 1991. Almost two years Green's term of office remain.

The 51-year-old attorney has been in private law practice in Troy since 1969. He is a graduate of the University of Alabama School of Law.

In making the appointment, Gov. Hunt said, "I am proud to appoint John to this very important position in Pike and Coffee counties. John's 24 years of experience as an attorney in Troy will make him a fair and hard-working judge. He will represent the area very well."

Circuit Judge Gary McAliley said, "Governor Hunt has made an excellent choice in appointing Crawley. He is a fine legal scholar and a hard worker. John will hit the ground running!"

Crawley said he wants to go to work immediately to reduce a back log of cases in criminal court. "There are two things I want to accomplish at first," said Crawley. "I want to get the case load current and I want to be fair and honest in making decisions."

The appointment of Crawley returns the number of judges serving

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When Long reached the intersection of Al. 203 (by-pass) and Highway 87, he turned west on Al. 203. According to police officers, Long, after stopping at the intersection of Claxton and Al. 203, ran the red light and continued around the by-pass toward U. S. Hwy. 84W.

The 12th Judicial Circuit to three. They are Judge Terry Butts, Judge Gary McAliley, and now, Judge John Crawley.

Last Sunday, John Crawley was sworn in as the newest circuit judge for the 12th Judicial Circuit composed of Pike and Coffee counties.

The Troy attorney was appointed Wednesday, April 3, 1991, by Gov. Guy Hunt to fill the vacancy created when Judge Ritley Green, Jr. retired last January 1, 1991. Almost two years Green's term of office remain.

The 51-year-old attorney has been in private law practice in Troy since 1969. He is a graduate of the University of Alabama School of Law.

In making the appointment, Gov. Hunt said, "I am proud to appoint John to this very important position in Pike and Coffee counties. John's 24 years of experience as an attorney in Troy will make him a fair and hard-working judge. He will represent the area very well."

Circuit Judge Gary McAliley said, "Governor Hunt has made an excellent choice in appointing Crawley. He is a fine legal scholar and a hard worker. John will hit the ground running!"

Crawley said he wants to go to work immediately to reduce a back log of cases in criminal court. "There are two things I want to accomplish at first," said Crawley. "I want to get the case load current and I want to be fair and honest in making decisions."

The appointment of Crawley returns the number of judges serving

and also, he was driving on the wrong side of a four-lane highway.

The 237 percent blood alcohol level is more than twice the state's legal limit of .10 percent to operate a vehicle.

During trial testimony, McCall reported stated that he had been arrested numerous times for driving under the influence.

Houston County's Assistant District Attorney Gary Maxwell reportedly stated, "I don't think he (McCall) intended to kill anyone, but what he did was so dangerous it was murder!"

A presentation hearing has been set for May